

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
Rycharde Jeffery HAWKES et al :  
Serial No. not assigned : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Filed: herewith : Examiner: N/A  
For: HELPER ENTITY FOR COMMUNICATION SESSION

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 9 and 13 as follows:

9. (Amended) In combination, a helper entity according to claim 1, an information page server for serving information pages, and a service system for establishing a respective communication session for each of at least some of the information pages and for joining to such session endpoint entities browsing the corresponding page, each communication session that is established having an associated transport mechanism allowing the exchange of data, via data transfer channels, between endpoint systems joined to the session; the service system being operative to join the helper entity to a said session to offer assistance when appropriate to endpoint systems joined to the session.

13. (Amended) In combination, a helper entity according to claim 1, and a service system for setting up a communication session with an associated transport mechanism allowing the exchange of data, via data transfer channels for different media types, between endpoint entities joined to the session; the service system, in setting up a communication session, creating a service-session functional entity for controlling the joining of endpoint entities to the session in accordance with a predetermined service behaviour, and the service-session functional entity being responsible for joining the helper entity to the session as required, this joining involving the sending of said channel information to the helper entity.

### REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple dependencies of claims 9 and 13 to avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Marked-Up Version Showing Changes".

Respectfully submitted,

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5. A helper entity according to claim 1, wherein the advisor subsystem is operative to adapt the advisory content it delivers to be appropriate to content recently received over the connected channels.
- 5 6. A helper entity according to claim 1, wherein the advisor subsystem is operative to receive context data regarding the communication session and to adapt the advisory content it delivers accordingly.
7. A helper entity according to claim 6, wherein the context data includes data about  
10 endpoint entities connected to the session.
8. A helper entity according to claim 6, wherein the context data includes identity data about the endpoint entities joined to the session, the advisory subsystem including database access functionality for using the identity data to look up information about the entities in a  
15 database, this information then being used by the advisor system to adapt the advisory content it delivers.
9. In combination, a helper entity according to <sup>claim 1</sup>~~any one of the preceding claims~~, an  
20 information page server for serving information pages, and a service system for establishing a respective communication session for each of at least some of the information pages and for joining to such session endpoint entities browsing the corresponding page, each communication session that is established having an associated transport mechanism allowing the exchange of data, via data transfer channels, between  
25 endpoint systems joined to the session; the service system being operative to join the helper entity to a said session to offer assistance when appropriate to endpoint systems joined to the session.
10. The combination set out in claim 9, wherein the advisory content provided by the  
30 advisor subsystem is specific to the page associated with the session to which the helper entity is joined.

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11. The combination of claim 9, wherein the service-session functional entity joins the helper entity to the session in a manner such that other entities joined to the session are unaware of the joining of the helper entity.

5 12. The combination set out in claim 9, wherein the service system includes a real-time database for recording for each session that is established, the identity of the associated information page and of any endpoint entity currently joined to the session, and a customer database, the helper entity including database access functionality for accessing the real-time database to ascertain the identities of the entities joined to the session which it then  
10 uses to adapt the advisory content it delivers.

13. In combination, a helper entity according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, and a service system for setting up a communication session with an associated transport mechanism  
15 allowing the exchange of data, via data transfer channels for different media types, between endpoint entities joined to the session; the service system, in setting up a communication session, creating a service-session functional entity for controlling the joining of endpoint entities to the session in accordance with a predetermined service behaviour, and the service-session functional entity being responsible for joining the helper  
20 entity to the session as required, this joining involving the sending of said channel information to the helper entity.

14. The combination of claim 13, wherein the service-session functional entity joins the helper entity to the session in a manner such that other entities joined to the session are  
25 unaware of the joining of the helper entity.

15. The combination of claim 13, wherein the service-session functional entity comprises a session instance with generic behaviour for adding and removing endpoint entities to the communication session and for recording the endpoint entities currently joined to the  
30 communication session, and an associated service instance with service-specific behaviour determining when the session instance is to add and remove endpoint entities.

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